(c) if so, the details of the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) has been subsumed in the Backward Regions Grant Fund. Under the new scheme, total 24 districts of Madhya Pradesh, including the 10 districts already covered under RSVY, have been covered.

**Restructuring of 11 bridges on NH.-17**

2192. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway administration has recommended the restructuring of 11 bridges on National Highway 17, which may collapse;

(b) what is the status of the proposal submitted by Executive Engineer, Highways administration Mangalore Zone, seeking Rs. 5.5 crore from the Centre to undertake major repairs;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Centre that the problems are compounded by overloaded trucks that pass through regularly; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to rebuild the Barkur Bridge which connects Brahmavar and Shimoga, if so, by when the work would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) There are 12 bridges, 11 in Karnataka and One in Kerala on NH-17, which are in distress condition and require rehabilitation. For one bridge in Kerala, proposal for rehabilitation has already been sanctioned and work is in progress. For remaining 11 bridges in Karnataka, proposals for rehabilitation forwarded by the State PWD were not found to be as per site requirements and the State PWD has been requested to modify the proposals to be in the line with the site requirements. The modified proposals have not been received.

These bridges are very old, constructed about 50 years back, and being very close to the sea, are exposed to saline conditions. The plying

of overloaded vehicles on these bridges has also contributed towards the distressed condition of these bridges.

(d) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The State roads fall within the purview of the respective State Governments. Since the road connecting Brahmavar and Shimoga is State road, Government of Karnataka is responsible for re-building the Barkur Bridge.

**National Highways Development Project-lll**

2193. SHRI SURYAKANTBHAI ACHARYA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have envisaged a National Highways Development Project-Ill; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly with reference to the State of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Government has approved National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-Ill consisting of stretches aggregating to 11113 km. of National Highways in the country Out of this, implementation of 4000 km. on BOT basis has been approved under NHDP Phase IllA and preparation of Detailed Project Report for the remaining stretches. The stretches under this Phase have been identified as per the following criteria:

(i) High density traffic corridors not included in Phases-I and II of NHDP.

(ii) Providing connectivity of state capitals with NHDP (Phases-I & II).

(iii) Connectivity of centers of tourism and places of economic importance.

The statewise details of stretches including State of Gujarat, identified under this Phase is enclosed as Statement.